



#### NEWS RELEASE

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## NEBRASKA GED® DIRECTOR VICKI BAUER RECEIVES 2013 NATIONAL AWARD

Nebraska educator Vicki Bauer has received a national award for her leadership of the state GED program.

The 2013 Distinguished Service Award recognized Bauer's commitment and contribution to the state GED testing program as well as her support of adult GED test-takers and for making a difference in their lives and the lives of their families.

"Through the years Vicki has been a trailblazer when it comes to encouraging adult learners to pursue the GED credential, implementing innovative approaches to encourage more adult learners to enter the GED pipeline or finish the test and earn their high school diploma," Vicki Greene, GED national vice president of operations, said when presenting the award to Bauer.

Greene noted that Bauer has created billboards, established 877-EARN GED as a toll free number for Nebraska test-takers; created newspaper inserts featuring GED success stories and developed partnerships with community colleges and other career centers to reach adults who had not yet received their high school diploma.

"You name it, Vicki tried it and succeeded in encouraging more Nebraskans to complete the GED test," Greene said.

The Distinguished Service Award honors a GED administrator who:

- Demonstrated unwavering commitment to the advancement of his/her jurisdictional GED testing program; and
- Made outstanding contributions through relevant initiatives that identify, develop, encourage, advance, link and support GED test-takers.

Bauer has served as Nebraska's GED administrator for 15 years. She began her career in adult education in 1977 as an adult high school teacher in the GED program at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, becoming a full-time GED Learning Center instructor/coordinator in 1979.

In 1987, she became responsible for adult education professional development activities at the Nebraska Department of Education and was promoted to state director in 1997.

The award also recognized Bauer's national work with GED Testing Service. Bauer was recognized in July at the annual GED Administrators' Conference in Baltimore, MD.